

The Rector's Bible Class had become too large for management, and difficulty had been found in fixing a convenient hour on Sunday afternoon. It has been decided to divide it into two sections; the senior portion under the Rector's charge to meet on Thursday evenings, at 7.15. The juniors will be taught by Mr. G. G. Ruel, and will meet at the Sunday School at the usual hour, the Rector's study being reserved for them.

During Lent the offertory will be given to the Shingwauk Home.

THE CHOIR.

The only work of any considerable magnitude now being undertaken by the choir, is the "Crucifixion," a most effective and beautiful composition by Sir John Stainer. It is written for tenor and bass soloists with quartettes and choruses, and will be given as part of a short special service during Passion week. The soloists will be Mr. A. H. Lindsay, and Mr. Daniel.

Gaul's "Ten Virgins" will shortly be put in preparation.

Mr. T. Daniel, one of our most valued members, leaves us on the 28th of February, to take charge of the choir of the Leinster Street Baptist Church. While most unwilling to lose Mr. Daniel, he bears with him our most cordial wishes for his future welfare.

Next Sunday evening, February 7th, that beautiful little hymn, "Through the day thy love has spared us," will be sung by the choir to a new and original setting by Mr. Ford, which fully sustains his reputation for sympathetic treatment.

At a very early date, the choir will render Mr. Ford's anthem "Rock of Ages." The anthem, it will be remembered, was written by Mr. Ford at the Rector's request, very shortly after the former's arrival in this country. It bears on its title page a dedication to Mr. deSoyres.

Commenting upon this Anthem, the Leeds "Mercury," one of the leading Provincial papers in the north of England says:—

"James S. Ford's Anthem 'Rock of Ages,' for soprano solo and chorus, is unmistakably modern in tone and feeling; though there is nothing in it which can be pronounced inconsistent with the requirements of divine service. It opens with an organ prelude, after which the solo commences the words in turn being taken up and repeated by the chorus; the finale is well worked out, and [the half-dozen closing bars with their effective change of time, afford the requisite contrast to the preceding *fortissimo* passages. The accompaniment and general treatment betoken the possession of no little ability; and though rather long, the work is thoroughly pleasing, and will be found suitable for many special occasions."

NOTICES.

Church Notices.—Arrangements for Lent include a course of Sermons on Sunday mornings, upon the "Central Articles of Religion." Feb. 15th, Art. VIII, "of the Three Creeds." Feb. 22d, Art. IX, "of Original Sin." March 1st, Art. X,

"of Free Will." Mar. 8th, Article XI, "of Justification." March 15th, Art. XII, "of Good Works."

On Sunday evenings a course of Lectures upon the subject, "*Aids to Devotional Life.*" Feb. 15th, Jeremy Taylor's "Holy Living." Feb. 22d, "The Pilgrim's Progress." March 1st, Baxter's "Saints' Everlasting Rest." March 8th, Law's "Serious Call." March 15th, Keble's "Christian Year."

On Ash Wednesday there will be morning service at the Church at 11 a. m.

During Passion Week there will be Daily Services at 5 p. m., except on Good Friday, when the service will be at 11 a. m.

Confirmation Classes will meet at the Rector's house. Notice later of day and hour. The Confirmation will be held in the week after Easter.

Y. M. A. meetings for February on Fridays, the 13th and 27th, at the Sunday School house. All members please attend.

Ushers' Committee.—The Chairman, H. C. Tilley, requests that members of the Committee who are unable to attend on Sundays allotted to them, will kindly send him notice not later than the Friday preceding.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, while tolerating a "*nom de plume*," it is preferred that correspondents permit their correct names to be published. The Editors do not hold themselves responsible for ideas expressed in this column.]

OUR USHERS.

To the Editors of Parish Notes:

Probably one of the most important positions in connection with the lay work of the church, is that of an usher.

The Stone Church has an exceptionally good staff of ushers, and it is through their efforts that strangers coming to the church are accommodated in the best manner possible.

Although it is difficult, under the present arrangement of pews, to satisfy both pew holders and strangers, yet I think, with but very little trouble, a plan might be devised by which each pew owner could let the chairman of the Ushers' Committee know how many sittings (if any), he could place at his disposal. If some such plan could be adopted, it would prevent much trouble, and be found a great convenience.

I must admit that it is unpleasant for a pew owner to come to church and find that some usher has filled his pew. I know by experience that this is sometimes done, and I also know that pew holders decidedly object.

The question then naturally arises, what are the poor ushers to do? They get into hot water on every side. At present all pews, with the exception of one or two, are either sold or rented, and as the accommodation is limited, and strangers must have seats, I feel sure that our pew holders will comply with the suggestion made.

It is hoped that, at an early date, an arrangement will be made by which the owners of pews may be conferred with upon this subject.

HERBERT C. TILLEY,
Chairman of Ushers' Committee.